

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. How does a student find out when the course is scheduled to begin and what the prerequisites for the course are?

A. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain this information from the nonresident school district.

Q. How many courses can be taken in a year?

A. A student is permitted to take two courses at one time. The number of courses taken in a year will depend on the length of the courses taken.

Q. Do all the courses have to be taken in the same school district?

A. No. The student may take one course in one school district and another course in a different school district, as long as no more than two courses are taken at the same time. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that her or his schedule can accommodate such an arrangement. Neither school district is required to make any accommodations to enable the student to do this.

Q. Can private school students and students in home-based education programs participate in part-time open enrollment?

A. No. The inter-district part-time open enrollment program requires that the student must be enrolled in a public school in the high school grades. A separate statute allows private school students and students enrolled in home-based education programs to take up to two high school courses per semester in the students' *resident* school districts. For further information on this option, call the Department of Public Instruction or the student's resident school district.

Q. Who pays for the student to take the course?

A. The student's resident school district will pay the cost of the course to the nonresident school district. The student may be charged the same fees that are charged to resident students.

Q. Can a student take two courses in one nonresident school district and another two courses in another nonresident school district?

A. Not at the same time. No more than two courses may be taken at any time under the part-time program.

Q. From which school district does the student graduate?

A. The student graduates from the resident school district. If the course meets the high school graduation requirements in the resident school district, the credits earned in the course count toward graduation in the same way that any transfer credits are counted in the resident school district, according to school board policy.

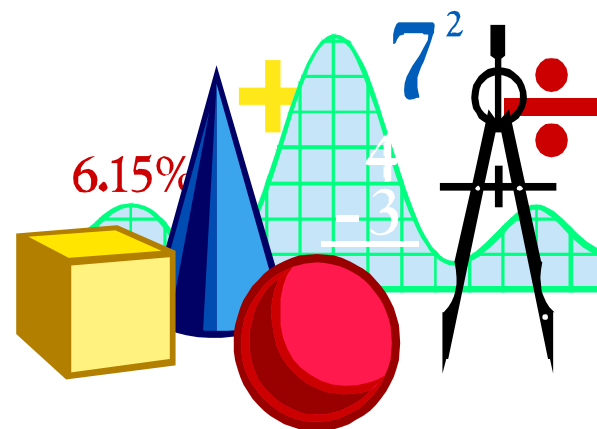
Q. Can a student take summer school courses in a nonresident school district under the part-time open enrollment program?

A. Yes. However, only courses that are eligible to be counted for state aid purposes may be taken under the program.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT

Mary Jo Cleaver, School Administration Consultant
Public School Open Enrollment
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 7841
Madison, WI 53707-7841
608-267-9101 or toll-free at 1-888-245-2732
email: maryjo.cleaver@dpi.state.wi.us
website: www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dfm/sms/psctoc.html

Part-Time Inter-District Open Enrollment in Wisconsin Public Schools (information for students and parents)



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PART-TIME INTER-DISTRICT PUBLIC SCHOOL OPEN ENROLLMENT

Wisconsin high school students may apply to attend one or two courses in nonresident school districts, while remaining enrolled in their resident school districts for the majority of their classes.

HOW TO APPLY

Parents and students may obtain application forms from any school district, from the Department of Public Instruction or from the internet (see internet address on this brochure).

The student must apply to the nonresident school district (the district in which the student wishes to take the course) no later than six weeks before the scheduled start of the course. The application form must be actually received in the nonresident school district by that date—a postmark is not sufficient. Late applications will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the parent and student to find out the starting date for the course.

RELEASE OF RECORDS

The student's parent or guardian is required to sign the application form (students who are 18 years of age or older may sign for themselves). By signing the form, the parent grants permission for the nonresident school district to request and obtain from the resident school district records that are necessary to determine whether or not the student is in high school and whether the student meets the prerequisites for the course.

State statutes also permit the nonresident school district to request any records relating to a student's expulsion during the current or preceding two school years. Separate parental permission is not required to release these records.

ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION—NONRESIDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

No later than one week before the start of the course, the nonresident school district is required to notify the student if the application is accepted or rejected.

The nonresident school may turn down a student only for the following reasons:

- space is not available in the course.
- the student is not in the high school grades.
- the student does not meet the nonresident school district's criteria for being admitted to the course.
- the student is not enrolled in a public high school in Wisconsin.

ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION—RESIDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

No later than one week before the start of the course, the resident school district is required to notify the student if the application is denied (notification is not required for approval).

The resident school district may deny a student's application only for the following reasons:

- the cost of the course creates an undue financial burden on the resident school district.
- the course conflicts with the individualized education program (IEP) for a student who needs special education.

No later than one week before the start of the course, the resident school district must also notify the student if the course does not meet the high school graduation requirements in the resident school district (although the student may attend the course even if it does not meet the high school graduation requirements.)

NOTIFICATION OF THE STUDENT'S INTENT TO ATTEND THE COURSE

If the student has been notified that she or he is accepted into the course, the student must notify both the nonresident and the resident school districts whether or not the student will attend the course by the last weekday (excluding state holidays) before the course starts.

It may be wise for the student to have an alternative course scheduled in the resident school district in case the student's application is denied by either the nonresident or the resident school district.

APPEALS

If the application is rejected by either the resident or nonresident school district, the parent may appeal the decision to the Department of Public Instruction within 30 days. The Department is required to uphold the school board's decision unless the Department finds that the decision was arbitrary or unreasonable. The Department's decision is final.

TRANSPORTATION

The parent is responsible for transporting the student to and from the course in the nonresident school district.

If the parent is unable to pay the cost of the transportation, the parent may apply to the Department of Public Instruction for reimbursement of the actual transportation costs. Preference will be given to families that are eligible for free or reduced price lunches under the federal school lunch program.

Claims for transportation reimbursement may be submitted to the Department at the end of each semester. Claim forms may be obtained from the Department of Public Instruction or from the internet.